

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 06342 232202Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 /052 W
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, CI
SUBJ: REACTION TO MEANY LETTER

REF: (A) STATE 207700 (B) STATE 206011

1. IN AN APPARENT REACTION TO THE RECEIPT BY THE GOC OF A COPY OF GEORGE MEANY'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER (REFTEL), THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL PLANNING (ODEPLAN), ROBERTO KELLY INVITED AIFLD REPRESENTATIVE, BRUCE JAY, FOR A WORKING BREAKFAST WITH ODEPLAN ECONOMISTS. JAY WAS THE ONLY GUEST. KELLY EMPHASIZED GOC EFFORTS TO FURTHER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS BY REORIENTING THE CHILEAN ECONOMY TOWARDS PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND TO THE FREE MARKET APPROACH TO SETTING PRICES AND ACHIEVING ECONOMIC GOALS. ODEPLAN DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MIGUEL KAST, ARGUED THAT WAGE CONTROLS WERE A NECESSARY AND CONSCIOUS TRADE OFF TO PRODUCE A HIGHER RATE OF EMPLOYMENT AND INVESTMENT.

2. JAY STRESSED THE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE CURRENT MENTALITY OF DEMOCRATIC LABOR LEADERS AND TO HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE IN THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRESSURES AND PROBLEMS IN RETURNING TO TRADE UNION NORMALITY. HE STRESSED THE AFL-CIO'S CONCERN FOR RECOGNITION OF FREE LABOR'S ROLE IN COUNTERING PRESSURES FROM THE LEFT
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AND RIGHT THAT THREATEN FUTURE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STABILITY. THERE WAS NO EVIDENT MEETING OF MINDS. (JAY POUCHING MEMCON).

3. "LA TERCERA" WILL PUBLISH A TRANSLATION OF THE MEANY LETTER AUGUST 24 ON ITS LABOR PAGE. DEMOCRATIC TRADE UNION LEADERS (GROUP OF TEN) HAVE MET WITH PRO-GOVERNMENT UNION

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE CEPCH AND UNTRACH TO EXPLAIN AND
SOLICIT SUPPORT FOR MEANY'S POSITION. EDUARDO RIOS, LEADER
OF THE "GROUP OF TEN", BELIEVES THAT THESE CONVERSATIONS
HAVE BEEN VERY POSITIVE. RIOS HAS TOLD LABATT THAT THE "GROUP
OF TEN" AND UNIONS TO THE RIGHT, UNDER THE GUISE OF SUPPORT TO THE
CHUQUICAMATA MINERS, PLAN TO SEND A LETTER TO
THE GOC REQUESTING A RAPID RETURN TO TRADITIONAL TRADE UNION
RIGHTS.
GROVER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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